

The length of the crystalline style of *Perna viridis* in relation to shell length, shell width and shell height : data for future reference.

Abstract

The crystalline style (CS) is a gelatinous rod-like body that contains starch-digesting enzymes in the hemolymph of the bivalves. The lengths of the CS, shell lengths, shell widths and shell heights of the green-lipped mussel *Perna viridis*, collected from seven sampling sites in southern coastal waters of Peninsular Malaysia, were measured. The lengths of CS in relation to shell length, shell width and shell height were 72-73%, 211-218% and 154-157%, respectively. The correlation analysis indicated that the length of CS is positively and significantly ($P < 0.001$) correlated to the shell length ($R = 0.81$), shell width ($R = 0.82$) and shell height ($R = 0.64$). The percentages of the CS length to the shell parameters could be potentially used to identify the different mussel species since different mussel species have a specific CS length to the shell length. The present findings can serve as an important reference for comparative purpose with other bivalve species.

Keyword: Crystalline style length; Shell size; *Perna viridis*.